



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Sirron Buckner, 25, Madison, Wisconsin was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 192 months in prison for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine in Madison, Wisconsin. Buckner pleaded guilty to that charge on August 17, 2005.

The evidence showed that on June 30, 2005, the Madison Police Department received information that Sirron Buckner and others may be engaged in drug dealing at a Madison hotel. Officers conducted a search of Buckner's hotel room and found cocaine powder, crack cocaine, and ecstasy. In addition, officers seized over \$13,000 and a loaded firearm.

Judge Shabaz found that Buckner had distributed approximately eight kilograms of powder cocaine during the two months prior to the search, and Buckner's sentence was based in part on that drug dealing activity. In addition, Buckner's sentence was increased based on his possession of a loaded firearm related to this drug activity.

Judge Shabaz noted that the key to this case was that Buckner was a significant drug dealer, undeterred by past contact with the criminal justice system and past attempts at substance abuse treatment. Judge Shabaz stated that a sentence of this magnitude was necessary to provide the defendant structure, vocational training and

drug treatment, and the best place for this defendant to get those was prison.

The charges against Buckner were the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison Police Department and the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force.

Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura A.

Przybylinski Finn.

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